



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COLUMBIA METH USER PLEADS GUILTY TO ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARM

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Columbia, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to being an illegal user of a controlled substance in possession of a firearm.

Travis Jay Hall, 24, of Columbia, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Scott O. Wright this morning.

By pleading guilty, **Hall** admitted that he was an unlawful user of a controlled substance while also in possession of a loaded Smith and Wesson 9 mm pistol on Sept. 3, 2003, in Boone County, Mo. **Hall** admitted that he was an unlawful user of methamphetamine when he possessed the firearm.

Under federal statutes, Graves explained, **Hall** could be subject to a maximum sentence of up to 10 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000. His sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

Hall was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on April 9, 2004, in Jefferson City.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jim Lynn. It was investigated by the Columbia, Mo., Police Department, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow